GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Agricultural Marketing Department – Departmental Proceedings initiated against Sri M.Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur and now (Retired)on the allegation of irregularities in execution of work of "Construction of Traders Trade Promotion Centre and Farmers Information Centre" in old AMC Yard, Guntur – Inquiry conducted – Charge held proved – Imposing of penalty – Orders – Issued.

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AGRICULTURE & CO-OPERATION(VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 426 Dated: 13-07-2021

Read the following:-

1. From the Registrar, Institution of Lokayukta of A.P., Hyderabad Letter Dis.No.1584/2012/B2/3230/2015, dated: 11.05.2015.
2. From the C&DoAM, A.P., Guntur Letter No.Ec-T/63/2015/ DEE.II/ Report on allegations/Lokayukta, dated:31.10.2016.
3. G.O.Rt.No's.8 to 15, A&C(Vig.II) Dept, dated:16.01.2017.
4. G.O.Ms.No.5, A&C(Vig.II) Dept., dated:20.01.2017.
5. G.O.Rt.No.35, A&C(Vig.II) Dept., dated:20.01.2017.
6. G.O.Rt.No.304, A&C(VIg.II) Dept., dated:07.05.2018.
7. G.O.Rt.No.292, A&C(VIg.II) Dept., dated:12.04.2019.
8. Inquiry Report of COI-JS, D.O.Letter No.21/COI-JS/2019, dated:18.03.2020.
9. Govt. Memo No.4406/Vig.II(1)/2015, dated:02.06.2020.
10. Explanation of Sri M.Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur, dated:21-07-2020.
11. Govt. Memo No.4406/Vig.II(1)/2015, dated:11.12.2020.
12. Explanation of Sri M.Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur, dated:31-12-2020.
13. Govt.letter No. 4406/Vig.II(1)/2015, dated:26-03-2021.
14. From the Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada, Letter No.205/DC&C/2021, dated:23-06-2021.

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O R D E R:

The Registrar, Institution of Lokayukta of A.P., Hyderabad, in the reference 1st read above, had informed that, the Hon'ble Upa Lokayukta vide orders dated:08.04.2015 in Complaint No.1584/2012/B2 referred the matter to the Government under Rule 5(8) of the Andhra Pradesh Lokayukta and Upa-Lokayukta Rules, 1984, for conducting departmental enquiry as per Andhra Pradesh Civil Services(Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules against the persons responsible.

2. Based on the report of the Deputy Director(Investigation), O/o Hon'ble Lokayukta, A.P. as well as the report furnished by the Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, AP, Guntur departmental proceedings were initiated by framing articles of charges against following nine (9) Accused Officers on the allegations of irregularities of corruption and malpractices in execution of works in various AMC's in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

1. Sri K. Jayasekhar, Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada;
2. Sri Y.A.V.S.R.K. Prasad, Depury Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada;
3. Sri V.S.R.K. Prasad, Asst.Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada;
4. Sri P. Gopi, Asst.Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada;
5. Sri M.Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur;

P.T.O.

6. Sri D.Veerabhadra Rao, Deputy Executive(AM) Electrical, Vijayawada;
7. Sri D. Kotaiah, Asst.Engineer(AM), Guntur;
8. Sri P. Venkateswar Rao, Asst.Engineer(AM), Guntur; and
9. Sri P.V.S.Chalapathi Rao, Asst.Engineer(AM), Guntur.

3. The article of charge framed against Sri M.Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur is as follows:-

Article of Charge:-

"That Sri M. Venugopal Rao, while working as Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur, has failed to discharge his legitimate duties and failed to follow prescribed procedures in execution of work of "Construction of Traders Trade Promotion Centre and Farmers Information Centre" in old AMC Yard, Guntur and committed lot of irregularities".

4. All the Charged Officers have submitted their written statements of defence except Sri K.Jayasekhar, Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada, denying the charges framed against them. After examining the written statements of defence of the Charged Officers, Government have decided to conduct a detailed inquiry into the charges framed against them as their written statements of defence are not convincing. Accordingly, in the reference 6th read above, Sri K.Sahadeva Reddy, Member, Commissioner of Inquires, General Administration (COI) Department was appointed as Inquiring Authority for conducting common inquiry into charges framed against all Charged Officers and Sri S.Sidda Reddy, Executive Engineer (AM), Guntur was also appointed as Presenting Officer. Subsequently in the reference 7th read above, Sri J.Satyanarayana, Member, Commissioner of Inquiries has been appointed as Inquiring Authority.

5. After conducting common inquiry, in the reference 8th read above, the Inquiring Authority/ Commissioner of Inquiries has furnished the inquiry report stating that, the charges framed against (8) Charged Officers are held as proved and the charges framed against Sri D.Veerabhadra Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer(AM) Electrical, Vijayawada are held as not proved.

6. In the reference 9th read above, a copy of the inquiry report was communicated to all (9) Charged Officers with a direction to submit their explanations, if any, on the fndings of the Inquiry Officer. In the reference 10th read above, Sri M.Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur has submitted his explanation on the findings of the inquiry officer.

7. Government, after careful examination of the matter with reference to the record of inquiry, have provisionally decided to impose a penalty of "2% (two percent) cut in pension for a period of one(1) year" against Sri M.Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur & Executive Engineer(AM) (Retired), Visakhapatnam under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, in the reference 11th read above, Show Cause Notice was issued to Sri M. Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer(AM) (Retired) to show cause as to why the said penalty should not be imposed against him. In turn, in the reference 12th read above, Sri M.Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer(AM) (Retired) has submitted his explanation to the Show Cause Notice.

8. After examining the explanation of the Charged Officer, Government have decided to impose a penalty of "2% (two percent) cut in pension for a period of one (1) year" against Sri M. Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer (AM),

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Guntur & Executive Engineer(AM) (Retired), Visakhapatnam under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, as the Charged Officer has not put forth any new grounds for consideration or to reduce the penalty. Accordingly, in the reference 13th read above, the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission was addressed for their concurrence on the decision of the Government.

9. The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, Vijayawada, in the reference 14th read above, has informed that the Commission agrees with the proposal of the Government, to impose a penalty of "2% (two percent) cut in pension for a period of one(1) year" against Sri M. Venugopal Rao, Executive Engineer (AM) (Retired) and advise accordingly.

10. Government, after following due procedure and careful examination of the matter, hereby order to impose a penalty of "2% (two percent) cut in pension for a period of one(1) year" against Sri M. Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur & Executive Engineer(AM) (Retired), Visakhapatnam under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, in the above said disciplinary case.

11. The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture Marketing, A.P., Guntur shall take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PARDESH)

Y MADHUSUDHANA REDDY, IFS,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri M. Venugopal Rao, the then Executive Engineer(AM), Guntur & Executive Engineer(AM)(Retired), Visakhapatnam.(Through:- The Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, AP, Guntur)

Copy to:-
The Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, AP, Guntur.
The Secretary, A.P.P.S.C, Vijayawada.
The Accountant General, A.P., Vijayawada.
The OSD to Hon'ble Minister(Agri., Mktg., Coop. & FP).
SF/SC.

// FORWARDED::BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER